

The Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins and its history



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LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY
PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

SUNDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

MONDAY:

ANDERSON BAHAMON
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

TUESDAY:

JEAN PAUL
SAXOPHONIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

THURSDAY:

MARRYBELL MADURO
SINGER
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.

FRIDAY:

MAILLEYN ALVARADO
VIOLINIST
7:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

SATURDAY:

RICKY THOMAS
GUITAR
6:30 TO 8:30 P.M.



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Trump declines to clarify if the U.S. will conduct tests of its nuclear weapons

By **MICHELLE L. PRICE** and **MANUEL BALCE CENETA**

Associated Press

ABOARD AIR FORCE ONE (AP) — President Donald Trump declined to say Friday whether he plans to resume underground nuclear detonation tests, as he had seemed to suggest in a social media post this week that raised concerns the U.S. would begin testing nuclear weapons for the first time in three decades.

The president told reporters “You’ll find out very soon,” without elaborating when asked if he means to resume underground nuclear detonation tests. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth offered few details on Friday when asked about what nuclear testing the Pentagon would oversee. But he seemed to indicate to reporters that the intent was to test warheads when he said “resuming testing” would be “pretty responsible.”

Trump, who spoke to reporters aboard Air Force One as he headed to Florida for a weekend stay, said, “We’re going to do



President Donald Trump speaks to the media after arriving at Palm Beach International Airport, Friday, Oct. 31, 2025, in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Associated Press

some testing” and “Other countries do it. If they’re going to do it, we’re going to” but then refused to offer more details.

His comments on nuclear testing have drawn confusion inside and outside the government when the president seemed to sug-

gest in a brief post that the U.S. would resume nuclear warhead tests on an “equal basis” with Russia and China, whose last known tests were in the 1990s. Some of Trump’s comments seemed to refer to testing missiles that would deliver a warhead, rather than the

warhead itself. There has been no indication that the U.S. would start detonating warheads.

The U.S. military already regularly tests its missiles that are capable of delivering a nuclear warhead, but it has not detonated the weapons since 1992.

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which the U.S. signed but did not ratify, has been observed since its adoption by all countries possessing nuclear weapons, North Korea being the only exception.

The Pentagon has not responded to questions. The Energy Department, which oversees the U.S. nuclear stockpile, declined to comment Friday.

Hegseth, speaking as he appeared at a meeting of defense ministers in Malaysia on the sidelines of a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, said the Pentagon would work with the Energy Department.

“The president was clear: We need to have a credible nuclear deterrent,” he said. “That is the baseline of our deterrence.” He said “resuming testing is a pretty responsible very responsible way to do that. And I think it makes nuclear conflict less likely.”

He added a few moments later: “It’s the right directive. We’ve moving out quickly.” □

Air traffic controller shortages lead to broader U.S. flight delays as shutdown nears one-month mark

By **RIO YAMAT**

AP Airlines and Travel Writer

Continued staffing shortages in air traffic control facilities around the coun-

try were again causing delays at airports on Friday as the government shutdown neared the one-month mark.



Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy, from right, speaks alongside Vice President JD Vance and Chris Sununu, president & CEO of Airlines for America, about the impact of the government shutdown on the aviation industry, outside of the West Wing of the White House, Thursday, Oct. 30, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy has been warning that travelers would start to see more flights delayed or canceled as the nation’s controllers continue to work without pay during the shutdown, which began Oct. 1.

“Every day there’s going to be more challenges,” Duffy told reporters Thursday outside the White House after a closed-door meeting with Vice President JD Vance and aviation industry leaders to talk about the shutdown’s impact on U.S. travel.

The Federal Aviation Administration reported staffing shortages were causing flight delays Friday at a number of airports, including in Boston, New York City, Nashville, Houston, Dallas and Newark, New Jersey.

Airports in Boston, Nashville and New York City were experiencing delays averaging two hours or longer.

Staffing shortages can happen at regional control centers overseeing multiple airports, as well as in airport towers, but they don’t always result in flight disruptions.

Aviation analytics firm Cirium says flight data showed a “broader slowdown” Thursday across the U.S. aviation system for the first time since the shutdown began, suggesting staffing-related disruptions may be spreading.

On Thursday, many major U.S. airports reported below-average on-time performance, with fewer flights departing within 15 minutes of their scheduled departure times, according to

Cirium. The data does not distinguish between the different causes of delays, such as staffing shortages or bad weather.

Staffing-related delays at Orlando’s airport on Thursday, for example, averaged nearly four and a half hours for some time, according to the FAA.

Most controllers are continuing to work mandatory overtime six days a week during the shutdown without pay, the National Air Traffic Controllers Association has said. That leaves little time for a side job to help cover bills, mortgage and other expenses unless controllers call out.

Duffy said controllers are also struggling to get to work because they can’t afford to fill up their cars with gas. □

Republican leaders reject Trump's demands to scrap the Senate filibuster to end the shutdown

By LISA MASCARO and MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Back from a week abroad, President Donald Trump threw himself into the shutdown debate, calling on the Senate to scrap the filibuster and reopen the government, an idea swiftly rejected Friday by Republican leaders who have long opposed such a move.

Trump pushed his Republican Party to get rid of the Senate rule that requires 60 votes to overcome objections and gives the minority Democrats a check on GOP power. In the chamber that's currently split, 53-47, Democrats have had enough votes to keep the government closed while they demand an extension of health care subsidies. Neither party has seriously wanted to nuke the rule.

"THE CHOICE IS CLEAR INITIATE THE 'NUCLEAR OPTION,' GET RID OF THE FILIBUSTER," Trump said in a late night social media post Thursday. Trump's sudden decision to assert himself into the shutdown now in its 31st day with his highly charged demand to end the filibuster is certain to set the Senate on edge. It could spur senators toward their own compromise or send the chamber spiraling toward a new sense of crisis. Or, it might be ignored.

Republican leaders responded quickly, and unequivocally, setting themselves at odds with Trump, a president few have dared to publicly counter.

Senate Majority Leader John Thune has repeatedly said he is not considering changing the rules to end the shutdown, arguing that it is vital to the institution of the Senate and has allowed them to halt Democratic policies when they are in the minority.

The leader's "position on the importance of the legislative filibuster is unchanged," Thune spokesman Ryan Wrasse said Friday.

A spokeswoman for Wyoming Sen. John Barrasso,



House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., speaks during a news conference at the Capitol, Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025, in Washington.

the No. 2 Republican, said his position opposing a filibuster change also remains unchanged. And former GOP leader Mitch McConnell, who firmly opposed Trump's filibuster pleas in his first term, remains in the Senate.

House Speaker Mike Johnson also defended the filibuster Friday, while conceding "it's not my call," from his chamber across the Capitol.

"The safeguard in the Senate has always been the filibuster," Johnson said, adding that Trump's comments are "the president's anger at the situation."

Broad GOP support for filibuster

Even if Thune wanted to change the filibuster, he would not currently have the votes to do so in the divided Senate.

"The filibuster forces us to find common ground in the Senate," Republican Sen. John Curtis of Utah posted on X Friday morning, responding to Trump's comments and echoing the sentiments of many of his Senate Republican colleagues. "Power changes hands, but principles shouldn't. I'm a firm no on eliminating it."

Debate has swirled around

the legislative filibuster for years. Many Democrats pushed to eliminate it when they had full power in Washington, as the Republicans do now, four years ago. But ultimately enough Democratic senators opposed the move, predicting such an action would come back to haunt them. Little progress on shutdown Trump's demand comes as he has declined to engage with Democratic leaders on ways to end the shutdown, on track to becoming the longest in history.

He said in his post that he gave a "great deal" of thought to his choice on his flight home from Asia and that one question that kept coming up during his trip was why "powerful Republicans allow" the Democrats to shut down parts of the government.

But later Friday he did not mention the filibuster again as he spoke to reporters departing Washington and arriving in Florida for a weekend at his Mar-a-Lago home.

While quiet talks are underway, particularly among bipartisan senators, Trump has not been seriously involved. Democrats refuse to vote to reopen the government until Republicans

negotiate an extension to the health care subsidies. The Republicans say they won't negotiate until the government is reopened. House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries said on CNN that Trump needs to start negotiating with Democrats, arguing the president has spent more time with global leaders than dealing with the shutdown back home.

From coast to coast, fallout from the dysfunction of the shuttered federal government is hitting home. SNAP food aid is scheduled to shut off. Flights are being delayed. Workers are going without paychecks.

And Americans are getting a first glimpse of the skyrocketing health care insurance costs that are at the center of the stalemate.

"People are stressing," said Sen. Lisa Murkowski of Alaska, as food options in her state grow scarce.

"We are well past time to have this behind us." Money for military, but not food aid

The White House has moved money around to ensure the military is paid, but refuses to tap funds for food aid. In fact, Trump's "big, beautiful bill" signed into law this summer, de-

livered the most substantial cut ever to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known as SNAP, projected to result in some 2.4 million people off the program.

Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins said Friday the agency cannot release contingency funds to keep SNAP running, but two judges ruled nearly simultaneously Friday that the administration must continue to fund the food aid program. The rulings are likely to face appeals.

"We are holding food over the heads of poor people so that we can take away their health care," said Rev. Ryan Stoess during a prayer with religious leaders earlier this week at the U.S. Capitol.

"God help us," he said, "when the cruelty is the point."

Deadlines shift to next week. The House remains closed under Johnson with no plans to resume the session, and senators left for the weekend and are due back Monday.

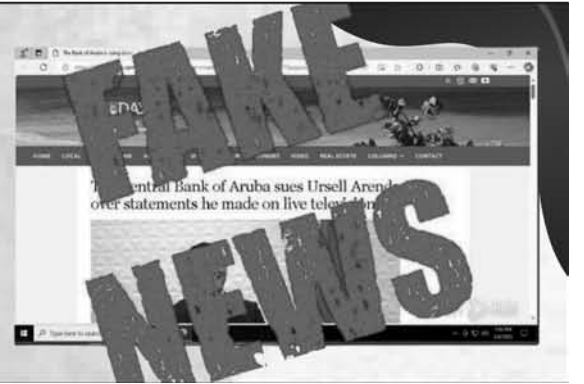
The next inflection point comes after Tuesday's off-year elections the New York City mayor's race, as well as elections in Virginia and New Jersey that will determine those states' governors. Many expect that once those winners and losers are declared, and the Democrats and Republicans assess their political standing with the voters, they might be ready to hunker down for a deal. If the shutdown continues into next week, it could surpass the 35-day lapse that ended in 2019, during Trump's first term, over his demands to build the U.S.-Mexico border wall. □



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Illinois lawmakers approve ban on immigration arrests near courthouses

By JOHN O'CONNOR

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Illinois lawmakers have sent Gov. JB Pritzker legislation prohibiting federal authorities from making immigration arrests near courthouses, but even one of the measure's top sponsors questions whether it can survive a court challenge. The proposal adopted early Friday also allows lawsuits when people believe their constitutional rights have been violated during civil immigration arrests. The legislation imposes civil damages for false imprisonment when someone attending a court hearing or appearing as a party or witness to a legal proceeding is arrested. Proponents say courts must be accessible to everyone to pursue remedies to violations of their rights. Democratic Senate President Don Harmon, a lead sponsor, acknowledged



U.S. Customs and Border Patrol agents arrive to escort U.S. Customs and Border Patrol Gregory Bovino from federal court in Chicago, Tuesday, Oct. 28, 2025.

the measure will face a court challenge. "It's not just about the constitutionality of the law, which I think is sound, but it's the reality that the

courts are stacked against us," Harmon said. "The federal government can try to remove it from state courts to federal courts. They can try to substitute the govern-

ment itself for the individual defendants, but that's not a reason not to try." Pritzker, a Democrat, supports the idea and will review the plan when it

Associated Press

reaches his desk, spokesperson Matt Hill said. Two weeks ago, the top judge in Cook County, home to Chicago, issued an order with the same prohibition. It's unclear whether the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has followed the dictum, but at the time, federal officials dismissed it, saying "there are no legal sanctuaries where you can hide and avoid the consequences for breaking the law." The Trump administration's immigration enforcement, which began two months ago in Chicago and its suburbs, is intended to round up migrants living in the country illegally, particularly those with criminal records. But witnesses have reported repeated incidents in which Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers detain people regardless of citizenship or legal status. □

Multiple people have been arrested in Michigan in a Halloween weekend attack plot, FBI director says

By MIKE HOUSEHOLDER and ERIC TUCKER

Associated Press

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) —



An FBI agent stands by an Evidence Response Team truck outside a home in a Dearborn, Mich., neighborhood on Friday, Oct. 31, 2025.

Associated Press

Multiple people who had been allegedly plotting a violent attack over the Halloween weekend were arrested Friday in Michigan, FBI Director Kash Patel said in a social media post. The law enforcement effort was focused on suburban Detroit. Patel said more information would be released later. Investigators believe the plot was inspired by Islamic State extremism and are investigating whether those in custody were potentially radicalized online, according to two people briefed on the investigation who could not publicly discuss details. They spoke to The

Associated Press on condition of anonymity. FBI and state police vehicles were in a neighborhood near Fordson High School in Dearborn. People wearing shirts marked FBI walked in and out of a house, including one person who collected paper bags and other items from an evidence truck. Police in Inkster, another suburb, said FBI personnel were at a storage facility there. "There is no current threat to public safety," said Jordan Hall, an FBI spokesperson in Detroit, who declined further comment. The investigation involved

discussion in an online chatroom involving at least some of the suspects who were taken into custody, people familiar with the investigation told AP. The group had discussed carrying out an attack around Halloween, referring to "pumpkin day," according to one of the people. The other person briefed on the investigation confirmed that there had been a "pumpkin" reference. It wasn't immediately clear if the group had the means to carry out an attack, but the reference to Halloween prompted the FBI to make arrests Friday, one of the people said. □

Xi and Carney, meeting in South Korea, try to rebuild China-Canada relations

By KEN MORITSUGU and
ROB GILLIES

Associated Press

GYEONGJU, South Korea (AP) —

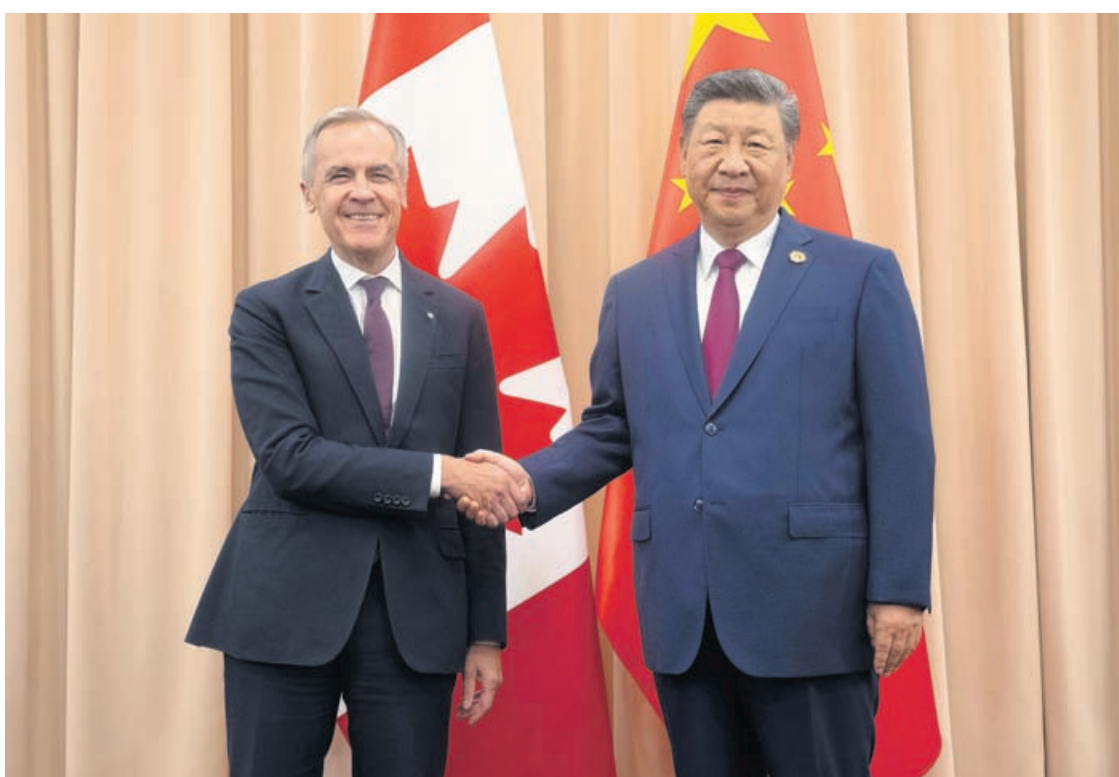
The leaders of China and Canada took a step toward mending the long-fractured ties between their countries on Friday.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, meeting in South Korea during an Asia-Pacific summit, called for improving ties in a pragmatic and constructive manner, according to both sides.

"The leaders agreed that their meeting marked a turning point in the bilateral relationship," a Canadian statement said.

Xi was quoted as saying that relations are showing signs of recovery, thanks to the joint efforts of both sides.

"We are willing to work together with Canada to take this meeting as an opportunity to promote the return of bilateral relations to a healthy, stable and sustainable track as soon as possible," Xi said, according to an official report distributed by China's state media.



Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, left, shakes hands with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the start of a meeting in Gyeongju, South Korea, Friday, Oct. 31, 2025.

Associated Press

Carney, who became prime minister in March, accepted an invitation from Xi to visit China, the Canadian statement said, without specifying any date. Carney also later told reporters he was "very pleased" with the outcome.

"We now have a turning point in the relationship, a

turning point that creates opportunities for Canadian families, for Canadian businesses and Canadian workers, and also creates a path to address current issues," he said.

Relations took a nosedive in late 2018 after Canadian authorities arrested a senior executive of Chinese tech giant Huawei as a part of its

extradition agreement with the United States. China then arrested two Canadian citizens and charged them with espionage.

Ties didn't improve much even after the 2021 release of the two Canadians, Michael Kovrig and Michael Spavor, and the Chinese executive, Meng Wenzhou, who is the daughter of Hua-

wei's founder.

More recently, relations have been shaken by Canada's decision to levy a 100% tariff on electric vehicles from China in 2024 and a 25% tariff on steel and aluminum. China has offered to remove its import taxes on some Canadian products if Canada drops the EV tariff.

Canada made the move last in tandem with the U.S. The Canadian statement said that both leaders directed their officials to move quickly to resolve trade issues and irritants and discussed solutions for specific products such as EVs, canola and seafood.

Xi called for expanding "pragmatic" cooperation in areas such as the economy, trade and energy. Both Canada and China have been hit by tariffs imposed by U.S. President Donald Trump.

Canadian canola producers, seafood exporters and pork farmers are dealing with steep Chinese tariffs in retaliation for the 100% tariff Canada imposed on Chinese electric vehicles, batteries and other goods last year. □

U.S. national intelligence director says former American strategy of 'regime change' is over

By JON GAMBRELL

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) —

The U.S. national intelligence director told officials Friday in the Mideast that America's former strategy of "regime change or nation building" had ended under President Donald Trump.

Tulsi Gabbard's comments before the Manama Dialogue, an annual security summit in Bahrain put on by the International Institute for Security Studies, underlines remarks Trump offered on a trip earlier this year to the Middle East.

In Trump's second term, previous American goals of fostering human rights and democracy promotion in the region have been replaced by an emphasis on economic prosperity and regional stability.

That includes securing a ceasefire that has halted the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip, as well as forcing an end to Israel's 12-day war on Iran after sending American bombers to attack Iranian nuclear sites.

"For decades, our foreign policy has been trapped in a counterproductive and endless cycle of regime change or nation building," said Gabbard, a former Congresswoman from Hawaii and U.S. Army National Guard veteran.

"It was a one-size-fits-all approach, of toppling regimes, trying to impose our system of governance on others, intervene in conflicts that were barely understood and walk away with more enemies than allies."

She added: "The results: Trillions spent, countless lives lost and in many cases, the creation of greater security threats."

That assessment mirrors Trump's own thinking about the wars that followed the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks on New York and Washington. He reached a deal in his first term to withdraw from Afghanistan, which in the Biden administration became a chaotic departure in 2021. Meanwhile, he's embraced Syria's interim President Ahmad al-Sharaa, a former al-Qaida fighter once held in an American prison in Iraq.

But serious challenges remain, particularly in the

Middle East. Gabbard noted in her brief remarks that the ceasefire in Gaza remained "fragile." She also acknowledged Iran remained a concern as the

head of the International Atomic Energy Agency said renewed movement has been detected recently at the country's nuclear sites. □



Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard speaks during a roundtable on criminal cartels with President Donald Trump in the State Dining Room of the White House, Thursday, Oct. 23, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

South African government criticizes Trump's refugee policy prioritizing white Afrikaner minority

By **MOGOMOTSI MAGOME**
Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — South Africa's government on Friday criticized the U.S. refugee policy shift that gives priority to Afrikaners, the country's white minority group of Dutch descent. The Trump administration on Thursday announced a ceiling of 7,500 refugees to be admitted to the United States, a sharp decrease from the previous 125,000 spots and said Afrikaners would be given preference over other groups. U.S. President Donald Trump has claimed that there is a "genocide" against Afrikaners in South Africa and that they are facing persecution and discrimination because of the country's redress policies and the levels of crime in the country. It's one of the contentious issues that has seen diplomatic relations between South Africa and U.S. hit an all-time low, with Trump suspending all financial aid to South Africa and setting one of the highest tariffs for the country's exports to the U.S. The South African government's international relations department said Friday that the latest move



A statue of former South African statesman and Afrikaner leader Louis Botha stands outside the entrance to the South African parliament building with Table mountain forming the backdrop, left rear, in Cape Town, South Africa, March 31, 2015.

Associated Press

was concerning as it "still appears to rest on a premise that is factually inaccurate." "The claim of a 'white genocide' in South Africa is widely discredited and unsupported by reliable evidence," spokesman Chrispin Phiri said. Phiri said that a program designed to facilitate the immigration and resettlement of Afrikaners as refugees was deeply flawed

and disregarded the country's constitutional processes. "The limited uptake of this offer by South Africans is a telling indicator of this reality," Phiri said. The U.S. notice, which signifies a huge policy shift toward refugees, mentioned only Afrikaners as a specific group and said the admission of the 7,500 refugees during the 2026 budget year "justified by humani-

tarian concerns or is otherwise in the national interest." Trump's asylum offer for Afrikaners has sparked divisive debate in South Africa, but has been largely rejected even by many in the Afrikaner community. This week, a group of prominent Afrikaners including politicians, activists, writers and businesspeople penned an open letter rejecting the notion that Afri-

kaners needed to emigrate from South Africa. "The idea that white South Africans deserve special asylum status because of their race undermines the very principles of the refugee program. Vulnerability not race should guide humanitarian policy," they wrote in the widely publicized letter. However, some Afrikaner groups continue to be very critical of the South African government's handling of crime and redress policies even though they reject the "white genocide" claim. An Afrikaner lobbyist group, AfriForum, on Thursday said that it doesn't call the murder of white farmers a genocide, but raised concerns about white people's safety in South Africa. "This does not mean AfriForum rejects or scoffs at Trump's refugee status offer there will be Afrikaners that apply and they should have the option, especially those who have been victims of horrific farm attacks or the South African government's many racially discriminatory policies," AfriForum spokesman Ernst van Zyl said. □

U.N. human rights chief says U.S. strikes on alleged drug boats are 'unacceptable'

GENEVA (AP) — The U.N. human rights chief said Friday that U.S. military strikes against boats in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean allegedly carrying illegal drugs from South America are "unacceptable" and must stop. The U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Volker Türk, called for an investigation into the strikes, in what appeared to mark the first such condemnation of its kind from a United Nations organization. Ravina Shamdasani, a spokeswoman for Türk's office, relayed his message Friday at a regular U.N. briefing: "These attacks and their mounting human cost are unacceptable. The U.S. must halt such attacks and

take all measures necessary to prevent the extrajudicial killing of people aboard these boats." She said Türk believed "air strikes by the United States



U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk addresses attendees on the activities of his Office and recent human rights developments around the globe, during the 60th session of the Human Rights Council, at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, Monday, Sept. 8, 2025.

Associated Press

of America on boats in the Caribbean and in the Pacific violate international human rights law." President Donald Trump has justified the attacks on the boats as a necessary escalation to stem the flow of drugs into the United States, but the campaign against drug cartels has been divisive among countries in the region. The strikes and the U.S. military's growing presence near Venezuela have stoked fears that the Trump administration could try to topple Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro, who faces charges of narcoterrorism in the United States. Asked Friday if he's considering land strikes in Venezuela, Trump said, "No."

He did not elaborate as he spoke to reporters aboard Air Force One as he heads to Florida for the weekend. Speaking earlier this week from the USS George Washington aircraft carrier in Japan, Trump noted the U.S. attacks at sea and reiterated that "now we'll stop the drugs coming in by land." U.S. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth on Wednesday announced the latest U.S. military strike in the campaign, against a boat he said was carrying drugs in the eastern Pacific Ocean. All four people aboard were killed. It was the 14th strike since the campaign began in early September, while the death toll has grown to at least 61. □

Sun catchers: The different lizards in Aruba

ORANJESTAD – Colorful or camouflaged, you're bound to encounter a variety of lizards basking in the sun or scurrying on their way in our island. From the charming, friendly iguanas to the good-luck gecko Pega-Pega, you're bound to meet a few of these special residents during your visit.

Aruba, as a desert island, is home to an incredible variety of unique and colorful species. Among them we can find different lizards, most of which have South American origins. But there are a few exceptions.

Iguanas



Iguanas are easy to spot, as they are larger than most other lizards and when young, have a bright green color that makes them stand out.

The iguanas usually found in Aruba are the Iguana iguana, known as the green iguana, or locally as Yuwana. The Yuwana are a mostly herbivorous species, and can grow up to 2 meters in size, including the tail, making them one of the largest in the iguana family. As you will see, despite their name, as they reach adulthood, the iguanas can take on a grey or blue tone instead of the bright green displayed by the young ones. In Aruba – as in the rest of the Kingdom of the Netherlands – the most usual color varies from green to lavender, black and sometimes a reddish brown.

Yuwana is a protected species, as it is listed under Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), meaning that international trade is regulated through the CITES permit system. In the past, Arubans used to eat a popular Yuwana soup, as it was believed to give strength and help restore health – probably due to the protein boost it delivered. However, it is now illegal to catch, kill, buy or sell Yuwanas in Aruba, and this includes eating them!

Turnip-tailed gecko

The turnip-tailed gecko is known locally as the Pega-Pega, meaning sticky-sticky, due to the way it sticks to walls using the suction in its little



fingers. They are found inside houses, and are mostly a nocturnal animal.

According to Etnia Nativa, the local Pega Pega is immediately recognizable by its large size, with a body length of up to 12 cm, and its large, swollen tail, approximately the same length or slightly shorter than its body; females are larger and more robust than males. It has short, robust legs with flattened toes and extensive basal webbing.

The undersides of its toes are covered in lamellae, which are used as friction pads to cling to smooth vertical surfaces. Some can even walk around completely upside down. Its toes are covered with ridges, which are peppered with millions of microscopic bristle-like structures called setae that attach and detach when the animal wills them to, and they never get gunked up.

They are variable in coloration, from a mottled dark gray to orange-brown, and are capable of changing color depending on their mood and surroundings. Mottled and banded markings aid in camouflage against tree bark. They are harmless and fragile; you can hold one in your hands as long as you are VERY gentle. Never put pressure on its tail because it will surely drop as a measure to try to distract the predator, and they are different from other lizards because they're long-lived, talkative, lack eyelids, and their small scales are situated next to each other like cobblestones rather than overlapping as is the case in most other lizards.

Turnip-tailed Geckos are insectivorous and feed on cockroaches, grasshoppers, beetles, flies, mosquitoes, and spiders, which makes them the best pest control to have at home! They spend their days concealed in dark tree grooves and cavities, in narrow crevices in the walls, or behind paintings, which provide the perfect shelter for them. Pega pega is a gecko endemic to our island, but in time, some 4–5 intrusive gecko species have been observed, some of which do not cease to amaze us with the racket they make, especially during the hours of the night.

The Pega-pega Phyllodactylus Julieni is also a protected species in Aruba, by law. It is illegal to kill them!

Blue Kododo

These are one of the most striking lizards in Aruba, recognizable by the male's bright blue color. The Aruban whiptail lizard, Cnemidophorus arubensis, is a species endemic to Aruba, meaning you can only find it here on our One Happy Island! They are also recognized as the

most common and populous lizard on the island. While the male is blue with white dots, the female is brown with blue dots.

These charming lizards eat mostly plants, such as flowers, nectar, leaves and fruits, and occasionally enjoy some insects. They are selective in which plants they eat, because of the toxins present in many available plants species. The Kododo help take care of Aruba's vegetation by playing a significant role in the dispersal of seeds for certain plants: when they eat fruit, they excrete the seeds in diverse locations, contributing to the reproduction cycle of our local plants.

Striped anole

The striped anole (Anolis lineatus) that lives in Aruba is known locally as Waltaka or Toteki. This is a species of lizard in the family Dactyloidae, and they are native to Aruba and Curaçao. It is usually found in dry areas, commonly where there are not large trees; rather they enjoy rocks, walls or tree trunks, as they prefer to stay close to the ground.

These lizards are about 7cm in length, have a brown color with a stripe on each side and typically, several stripes on the body and tail that are lighter in color. It has a dewlap which is orange-yellow – and what's unique about this species is that it is the only known species of anole where the dewlap is asymmetrically colored, with one side being a deeper orange and the other side a lighter yellow. Mostly this is seen in the males, as it is almost imperceptible in the females. If the Toteki shows you his dewlap, retreat! This is not a friendly greeting!

Lizards are wonderful creatures that are precious to our fragile, local ecosystem. Please be mindful of these residents as you enjoy your stay. □

Images: Some images are from Aruba Birdlife Conservation.



Celebrating Forty Years – Weekly Free Slot or Table Play for all Qualified Club Members

SUNDAY FUNDAY



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Shalom Hair & Nails Bar | Twist of Flavors | Dunkin Donuts
Treasure Cove | El Patio Tacos & Tequila | M8 Boutique
Fusion Restaurant, Tapas, Wine & Piano Bar

Best spots to view the sunset

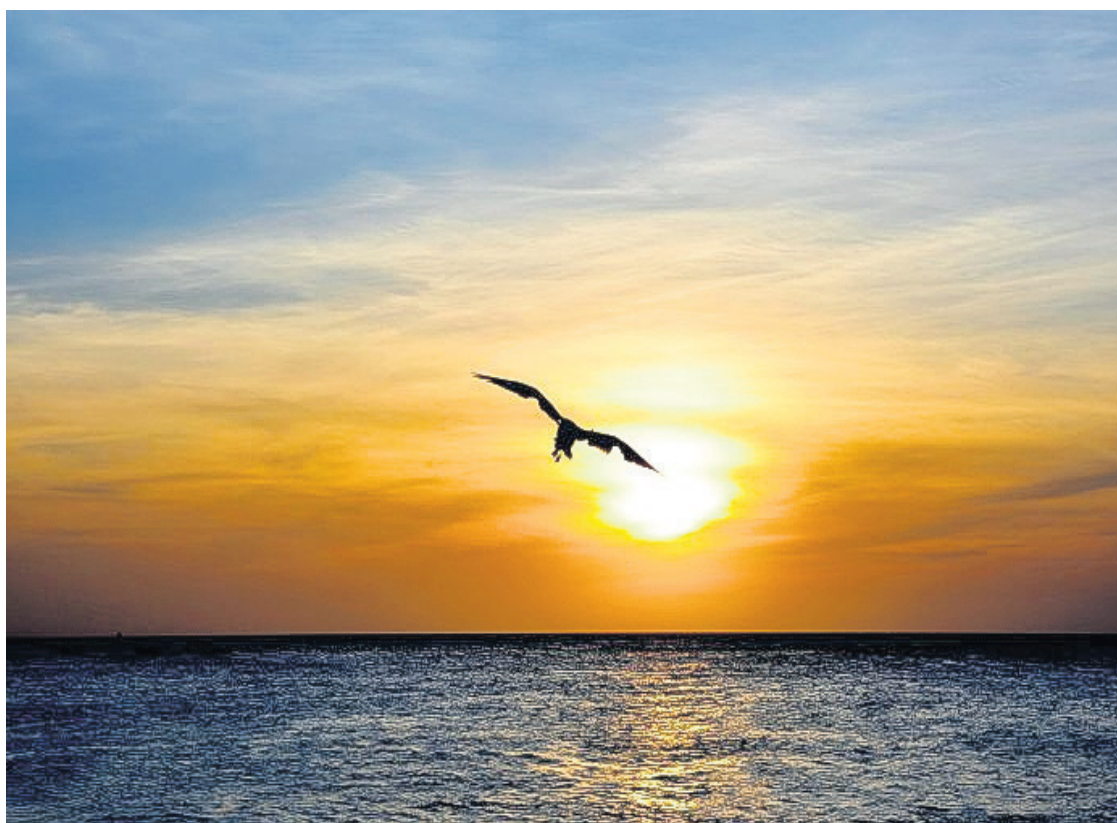
(Oranjestad)—What can be more romantic than surprising your partner with a date watching the sunset. Aruba's sunset leave many speechless, and luckily, the best spots to view the sunset are entirely accessible and easy to find. Here are some of the best places to view the sunset on the island.

California Light House

Of course, being one of the highest point easily accessible to locals and tourists, the California Light House hill not only offers a tremendous view of the sunset, but also a breath taking scenery of most of the island. In the distance you can spot all the hotels, the western shoreline and the wild waves that crash on the northern side of the island.

Manchebo & Eagle Beach

Speaking of the western shoreline, the best spots for viewing the sunset on the beach has to be either Manchebo Beach or at



Eagle Beach, which stretch along the entire western coast of the island starting from behind Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort up to the Amsterdam Manor roundabout. The sunset on these beaches is truly breathtaking; the sky and ocean look

so big and spacious, and paired with the orange/pink hue of the sunset, the white sandy beaches and the soft sounds of waves crashing—it can only be described as an experience!

Arashi Beach

Another beach that has to be considered as another great spot to view the sunset. Arashi Beach is the last beach you will find along the western coast line, just before you drive up the hill to the California Light

House. A favorite for surfers and body boarders, the Arashi sky stretches out for miles, lending a spectacular canvas for the sun to create a masterpiece of orange, pink and purple

Hooiberg Hill

These last two options are for more active couples. If you and your partner like to hike, the Hooiberg Hill may be a great place for you to get your daily workout in and enjoy a beautiful view of the sunset and the island as a little reward. Climb on top the 587-step stairs and reach the top to enjoy this incredible scenery.

Casibari Rock Formation

If you're a rock climber, you might enjoy watching the sunset on top of the Casibari Rock Formation. It's no Yosemite, but it does offer a fun little exercise to get to the top. But if you prefer not to get your hands a little dirty, you can always use the stairs in the back.hue.□



Aruba to me

ORANJESTAD — You are back or still enjoying your vacation?... we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubato-day.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

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U.S., Aruba Sign New Preclearance Agreement

ORANJESTAD – U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) signed a new Preclearance agreement with Aruba, enhancing security which will in turn modernize travel between the two countries.

The signing took place Oct. 24 during a ceremony near the Queen Beatrix International Airport in Oranjestad. The new agreement was signed by CBP Office of Field Operations (OFO) Executive Assistant Commissioner Diane J. Sabatino and Prime Minister of Aruba Michiel 'Mike' Eman, and replaces the 1994 Preclearance agreement, which pre-dates the formation of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and CBP. "The agreement is an achievement for both countries, further strengthening our relations, security, and ease of access for



both nations," said The Right Hon. Mike Eman, Prime Minister of Aruba. "At the heart of this cooperation lies the shared pursuit of happiness — the pursuit of the common good — which is the underlying force that brings our peoples together to create opportunities and forms of

collaboration that transcend borders. It is this shared ideal that makes partnerships like today's possible."

"This agreement advances our mutual security cooperation and commemorates nearly 30 years of Preclearance operations in Aruba," CBP's Acting Executive As-

sistant Commissioner for Field Operations Diane J. Sabatino said during the ceremony. "Today signifies an important milestone in our close partnership as we establish a modernized framework for Preclearance border security operations, enhancing our comprehensive security part-

nership through increased travel and an improved passenger experience."

Preclearance operations started in Aruba in 1996, making it one of 15 locations in six countries offering Preclearance, along with The Bahamas, Bermuda, Canada, Ireland, and the United Arab Emirates. The program enables CBP officers to perform the same immigration, customs, and agriculture enforcement typically done upon arrival in the United States before international travelers depart from certain foreign airports, identifying threats to the U.S. before arrival.

This reaffirmation between the countries builds upon a robust relationship, with opportunities for enhanced border security cooperation of mutual benefit to both nations. □

Why You Should Not Miss Aruba's Free City Center Street Car Tour

(Oranjestad)—Aruba's City Center Street Car – or as we call it in Dutch; "Tram van Oranjestad" – is a single track tram line in Oranjestad, the capital city of Aruba. It was inaugurated on 22 December 2012, being the first and so far the only passenger rail service on Aruba and the rest of the Dutch Caribbean. There are two trolleys, a single-deck one with 42 seats and a double-decker with 64 seats. The line was inspired by the popular battery-powered streetcar operation at the Grove in Los Angeles, USA. Aruba's streetcars are powered by hydrogen fuel cells, which are charged by the island's year-round trade winds.

Caya Betico Croes, mostly referred to as our "main street" has been developed into a pollution-free

pedestrian mall. The double-decker offers you a 360 degree view of the down town area with a picture perfect scenery of the island's clear blue skies. Who would not enjoy a ride on this beautiful and naturally air-conditioned vehicle? The tour consists of a total of 9 stops approximately 200 meters apart from each other; all stops are clearly marked. The tram will bring you close to different museums, historical plazas, monuments, the Protestant church, Aruba's high-end mall, retail shops, and a variety of local and international cuisine restaurants. The "I love Aruba" trademark also belongs to that list. The third stop on the route is close to a 5-minute walk to the famous Renaissance Marina showcasing luxurious yachts and Aruba's blue waters.



The "Tram van Oranjestad" starts from a balloon loop near the Port of Call and serves the downtown area and ends at Plaza Nicky. The first ride starts at 10:00 am sharp with

intervals of 25minutes. The last trolley departs from the cruise port at 5:00 pm. Don't miss this tour of the beautiful Aruba's City Center – it is free for all! □

Ayo & Casibari: Aruba's famous rock formations



(Oranjestad)—The Ayo and Casibari Rock Formations are known locally as one of the crucial sites to have in your “off-road” trip itinerary. These naturally formed rock formations as just one of the few places on the island that hold a rich history of our culture and of our ancestors.

Ayo

The Ayo Rock Formation is located in the northern part of the island, right on the road that leads you to the Black Stone Beach, and close to the Natural Bridge. The Ayo is a fenced terrain that consists of several giant boulders, resting

neatly on top of or side by side each other, adding gorgeous natural architecture to the surrounding “mondi”*. This is also one of the few sites to contain prehistoric markings of our indigenous ancestors. The Ayo Rock formation contains stairs that lead you to the top of the highest boulder, offering a breathtaking view of the Aruban backyard. The Ayo is usually quiet, as it is situated farther away from the busier parts of the island. However, this is just another charm of the site: the quiet area and the refreshing breeze offer a sense of comfort and peace.

Casibari

Probably the busier rock formation site, the Casibari is situated more in the center of the island, much closer—and more acces-



sible—to the general public. Just like Ayo, Casibari is a fenced area containing several boulders that lay on top or lean on each other. The best aspect of the Casibari Rock Formation is the accompanying view when you climb up the top of the round, flat bolder. For this position, you can see the majority of the island and the ocean in the south. Right in front of the entrance, there is the Casibari Café and Grill, a great place to get refreshments and snack before continuing your off-road adventure!

ture!

Both sites are open free to the public, 24 hours a day. However, unless you are taking a trip with a professional tour guide, there are no guides at the sites to help you climb the rock. So, do be careful when trudging on the boulders, and make sure to befriend any roaming goats you see along the way!□

***Mondi: what we call our Aruban wilderness. We don't have forests, or deserts, but we do have mondi!**



Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Candelchi!

ORANJESTAD—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the “Candelchi” (Squirrelfish),

a common, yet shy fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? The Department of

Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries, known as Santa Rosa, offers this informative article that illustrate some fish and their names in Papiamentu.

Candelchi, Squirrelfish, *Holocentrus adscensionis*:

Candelchi actually refers to the entire squirrelfish family or, as some say, when we say candelchi, we mean several different species but without distinguishing them by species. In this picture, we are showing the most common one in our waters, which is called squirrelfish in English or scientifically known as *Holocentrus adscensionis*.

Under candelchi, we in Aruba generally refer to all the different species of squirrelfish. They all look alike and it's really difficult to distinguish between them.

The squirrelfish family is distinguished by the following characteristics. They are heart-shaped with pink or red hues and often show heart-shaped streaks between the scales along the body. They have hard fins and are always armed. Over at our sister island Curaçao, they are called “bari di clabo” (nail barrel) for that reason.

In our waters, there are 7 to 8 types or species present

and they are sometimes caught and seen occasionally. They can be distinguished by different marks such as color on the dorsal spine or marks on the body.

In Aruba:

Candelchi are found on reefs or areas with structure in the water where they can hide. Although they prefer to hunt for food at night, they are also active during the day. They are edible and delicious when prepared dry and crispy with lime. It is particularly challenging to scale the fish, which is why it is not one of the favorites among fishermen. They often live in groups.□



Place names in San Nicolas and their origins

(Oranjestad)—If you're ever taking a tour of Aruba, San Nicolas would definitely be on your itinerary. From relaxing on the white, sandy beaches of Baby and Roger's Beach, to exploring the prehistoric caves of Quadirikiri and Fontein, you are taking in a full view of what San Nicolas has to offer. But did you know that you are also passing through areas whose names have historical origins? Here are a few place names in San Nicolas and their origin story.

Sero Colorado

On your way to Baby or Roger's Beach, you'll pass by the famous Red Anchor at what was once the entrance to the Colony residential community and be greeted with red soiled hills by the coast. This is Sero

Colorado. Named after the 30-meter, deep red, limestone hill, "Sero Colorado" translates to "Colored Hill". Sero Colorado has deep historical ties with the once-thriving phosphate industry in the area. Matter of fact, there are still underground shafts and passages deep in Sero Colorado from the time of phosphate mining. In 1958, the refinery at the time, Lago, adopted this name for the residential section of its employees.

Vader Piet

Another well visited area, Vader Piet is located in the Arikok National Park. Recognizable sites within this area includes the Wind Mills and the Quadirikiri Cave. The origin of this name is part historical and speculation, as there are slight deviations from what actually

happened.

In 1829, Pieter Lampe was a planter and the person responsible for governing this remote area. As the story goes, Pieter was well known and beloved for his kindness and good treatment of his employees, and was therefore also called Vader Piet (Father Piet). However, he was tragically murdered—some speculate at the hands of a slave. For his work and good heart, the area was named after him.

San Nicolas

Of course we can't forget San Nicolas itself. Much like Vader Piet, the origin of the name San Nicolas has so far two different accounts. In the literal sense, "San Nicolas" translates to "Saint Nicolas", leading many to believe that this



district was named after a Spanish saint. Though one account does support this with the theory that the district was named after the saint by Spanish colonizers, the other account is much less divine, but does refer to an influential figure in the area.

Nicolaas van der Biest was a successful landowner during the time of the phos-

phate boom in late 19th century Aruba. Back then, landowners (most, if not all of them men) were referred to as "Shon" by their subordinates. So, the district was originally named after Shon Nicolaas. Over time, the name evolved into what is now San Nicolas. □

Source: "Aruba: Short History" by Dr. J. Hartog.

The Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins and its history

(Oranjestad)—The Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins is one of the most visited places by tourists on the island, as it lies along the northern coast line near the mini pool and on the way to the Natural Bridge. Despite its seemingly plain appearance, this ruin represents one of the most important histories of the island: The Aruban Gold Rush.

Built in 1872 by English company Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd, the gold mill at Bushiribana was constructed in the area where most gold was found by locals. The story of gold on Aruba actually dates back to 1725, when

a first exploration for gold on the island was commissioned by the Dutch West India Company. Under the leadership of Mr. Paulus Printz, a three-year search was conducted on Aruba, to no avail. Though they found some gold, it was enough to motivate a further search, and the assignment was discontinued by Printz himself.

It wasn't until 100 years later, in 1824, when a young boy found a lump of gold while out herding his father's sheep. His father took it to a local merchant who then sold the lump for \$70. Unbeknownst to the boy and his father, they quite

literally struck gold, and as word got out, a gold fever spread among the locals who started searching for more gold. About 25 pounds worth was found.

At the same time, the Aruban government took immediate actions, and informed Curacao that gold was found. At first, everyone could look for gold, as long as they sold it to the government. However, after some time, the government decided to implement stricter rules and banned local search parties.

Over the years, concession-holding had seen dif-



ferent companies from around the world, all of which used primitive methods to dig and carve out gold from the rocks. Aruba Island Gold Mining Company Ltd. was no different, but used a unique method that involved grinding the rocks and letting the dust be blown away by the strong northeast wind, leaving clumps of gold behind. The next step was melting the gold and letting it attach

to quicksilver in order to obtain pure gold. All these processes were done at the Bushiribana Gold Mill.

The gold mill itself had a short life-span: only 10 years in service, but its structure remained relatively solid till this day, and is now a historical remnant. □

Sources: Etnia Nativa & gold-mineranch.com.



CROSSWORD

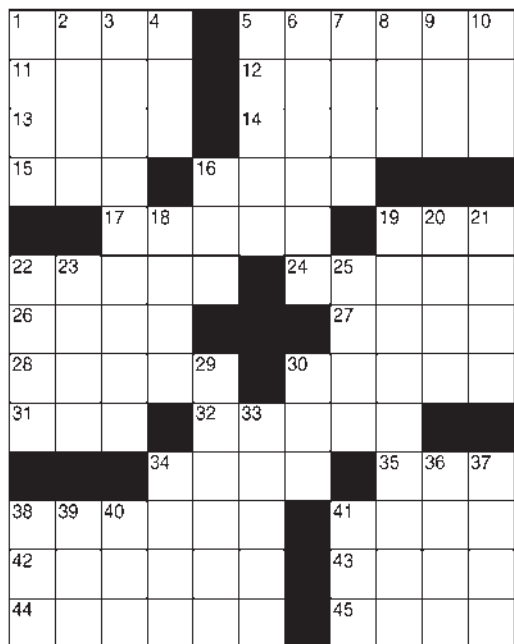
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 43 Spur on
1 Bugler's evening call
5 Source
11 Continental coin
12 Spanish inn
13 Amorous archer
14 Hire
15 Dallas player, for short
16 Recite the rosary
17 Shark's home
19 Copier problem
22 From the Arctic
24 Michelle or Malia
26 Writer Oz
27 Steel ingredient
28 Ship of 1492
30 Loquacious
31 Put away
32 Cheese choice
34 Thailand, once
35 Diamond club
38 Driver's surcharge
41 On this spot
42 Pleistocene period

DOWN

- 1 Abound
2 Mystique
3 Cheese choice
4 Distress signal
5 Musical drama
6 Cheese choice
7 Guessing game for kids
8 Lass
9 Swearing-in vow
10 Opposing vote
16 For each
18 Group of players
19 Cheese choice
20 In a frenzy
21 Quite a few
22 Mama's mate
23 Leave out
25 Slant
29 Cheese choice
30 Dickens boy
33 Becomes fuller
34 Ollie's pal
36 Jason's ship
37 Casual tops
38 USO patrons
39 Join a cast
40 Notice
41 Shade



11-8

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-8 CRYPTOQUOTE

J C Z K X D B G M L P B U P , Z K X

Q K G ' M M B E W M K Z K X T

C T J P G Q I . Z K X M B E W M K Z K X T

P G P F J P I . — Q P I F K G Q M X M X

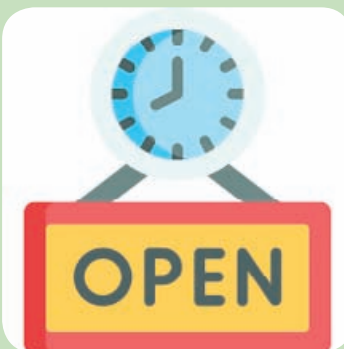
Cryptoquote: I WAS THIRTY-TWO WHEN I STARTED COOKING; UP UNTIL THEN, I JUST ATE. — JULIA CHILD

Cruise ship Schedule: Nov. 2 - 8 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
SUN	02	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-
TUE	04	SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	C	1
		OASIS OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	I	1
WED	05	EMERALD PRINCESS	09.00	18.00	B	1
		CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE	08.00	23.00	C	1
		FREEWINDS	06.00	****	E	1
SAT	08	ROYAL CLIPPER	09.00	18.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.



Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 8 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.



Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.



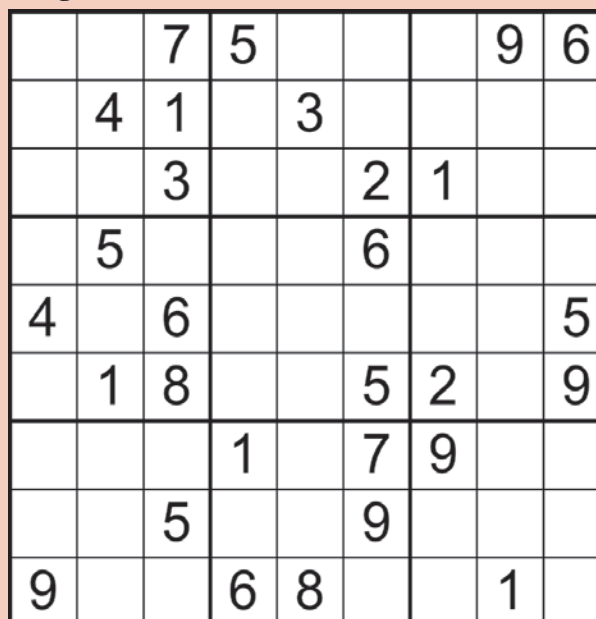
Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occur, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku



Difficulty: ★★★★★

11/1

Answer to previous puzzle

9	8	3	7	1	4	6	2	5
1	2	7	9	6	5	8	3	4
5	6	4	8	2	3	7	1	9
7	9	8	3	4	6	1	5	2
6	1	5	2	9	7	4	8	3
4	3	2	1	5	8	9	6	7
8	7	6	4	3	2	5	9	1
3	4	1	5	8	9	2	7	6
2	5	9	6	7	1	3	4	8

Difficulty: ★★★★★

10/31

How tiny drones inspired by bats could save lives in dark and stormy conditions

By **HOLLY RAMER**
Associated Press
WORCESTER, Mass. (AP)

— Don't be fooled by the fog machine, spooky lights and fake bats: the robotics lab at Worcester Polytechnic Institute lab isn't hosting a Halloween party.

Instead, it's a testing ground for tiny drones that can be deployed in search and rescue missions even in dark, smoky or stormy conditions.

"We all know that when there's an earthquake or a tsunami, the first thing that goes down is power lines. A lot of times, it's at night, and you're not going to wait until the next morning to go and rescue survivors," said Nitin Sanket, assistant professor of robotics engineering. "So we started looking at nature. Is there a creature in the world which can actually do this?"

Sanket and his students found their answer in bats and the winged mammal's highly sophisticated ability to echolocate, or navigate via reflected sound. With a National Science Foundation grant, they're developing small, inexpensive and energy-efficient aerial robots that can be flown where and when current drones can't operate.

Last month, emergency workers in Pakistan used drones to find people stranded on rooftops by massive floods. In August, a rescue team used a drone to find a California man who got trapped for two days behind a waterfall. And in July, drones helped find a stable route to three mine workers who spent more than 60 hours trapped underground in Canada.

But while drones are becoming more common in search and rescue, Sanket and researchers elsewhere want to move beyond the manually operated individual robots being used today. A key next step is developing aerial robots that can be deployed in swarms and make their own decisions about



Colin Balfour, a sophomore studying robotics engineering, flies a small drone at a simulated night flight at a laboratory at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Monday, Oct. 20, 2025, in Worcester, Mass.

Associated Press

where to search, said Ryan Williams, an associate professor at Virginia Tech.

"That type of deployment autonomous drones that is effectively nil," he said.

Williams tackled that problem with a recent project that involved programming drones to choose search trajectories in coordination with human searchers. Among other things, his team used historical data from thousands of missing person cases to create a model predicting how someone would behave if lost in the woods.

"And then we used that model to better localize

our drones, to search in locations with higher chances of finding someone," he said.

At WPI, Sanket's project addresses other limitations of current drones, including their size and perception capabilities.

"Current robots are big, bulky, expensive and cannot work in all sorts of scenarios," he said.

By contrast, his drone fits in the palm of his hand, is made mostly from inexpensive hobby-grade materials and can operate in the dark. A small ultrasonic sensor, not unlike those used in automatic faucets

in public restrooms, mimics bat behavior, sending out a pulse of high-frequency sound and using the echo to detect obstacles in its path. □



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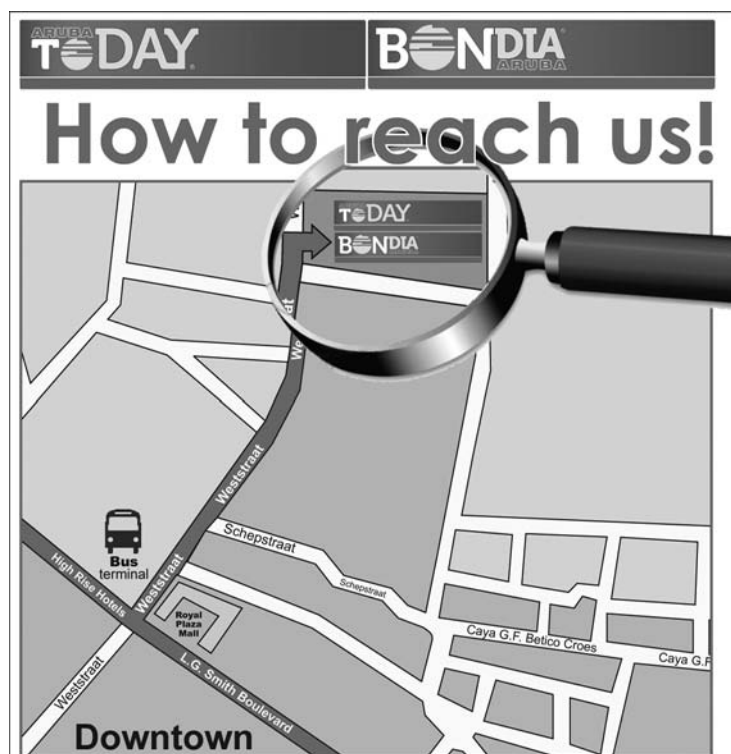
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HEALTH

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm
Tel. 527 4000

San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours
Tel. 524 8833

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Oranjestad:

Eagle: Tel. 587 9011

San Nicolas:

Centro Medico: Tel. 584 5794

OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850
Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002
Urgent Care 586 0448
Walk-In Doctor's Clinic
+297 588 0539

EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank
Tel. 588 0002
FAVI- Visually Impaired
Tel. 582 5051
Alcoholics Anonymous
Tel. 736 2952
Narcotics Anonymous
Tel. 583 8989
Fundacion Contra Violencia
Relacional Tel. 583 5400
Centre for Diabetes
Tel. 524 8888
Child Abuse Prevention
Tel. 582 4433
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

Americans staying put: U.S. home turnover rate at lowest level in decades as housing slump drags on

By ALEX VEIGA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The number of U.S. homes that typically change hands as people relocate for work, retire or trade-up for more living space hasn't been this low in nearly 30 years. About 28 out of every 1,000 homes changed hands between January and September, the lowest U.S. home turnover rate going back to at least the 1990s, according to an analysis by Redfin.

The home turnover rate represents the number of homes sold, divided by the total number of existing sellable properties. While sales data show whether more or fewer homes are selling in a given period, the home turnover rate helps illustrate how homeowners are staying put longer.

"It's not healthy for the economy that people are staying put," said Daryl Fairweather, chief economist at Redfin.

Consider, the home sales turnover rate through the first nine months of this year is down about 30% from



New construction homes and apartments are seen surrounding an older home on Friday, July 11, 2025, in Happy Valley, Ore.

the average rate over the same time periods between 2012 and 2022.

Traditionally, opportunities such as a new job or the need for more space when starting a family motivate homeowners to sell and relocate. The fact that fewer homes are changing hands suggests they aren't seeing as many opportunities for employment mobility, or perhaps can't afford to sell

and buy at today's prices and mortgage rates.

"If people are stuck, it's reflective of how the economy is stuck," Fairweather said. "We're in a low-hire, low-fire labor market and I think that this goes hand in hand with that."

U.S. employers added just 22,000 jobs in August, according to the Labor Department, down from 79,000 in July and well be-

low the 80,000 that economists had expected.

Government hiring data is on hold during the shutdown, so the Labor Department's tally of hiring in September was never released, but earlier this month a survey by payroll company ADP showed that the private sector lost 32,000 jobs in September. Meanwhile, several large companies, including Mi-

crosoft, General Motors, Amazon and Target, have announced job cuts.

The slowing job market has many Americans increasingly concerned. That's not a good recipe for home sales.

Another factor keeping a lid on home sales: Many homeowners who bought or refinanced to rock-bottom mortgage rates in 2020 and 2021 have little incentive to sell and buy a home at current home loan rates. The U.S. housing market has been in a slump dating back to 2022, the year mortgage rates began climbing from historic lows that fueled a homebuying frenzy at the start of this decade.

Sales of previously occupied U.S. homes sank last year to their lowest level in nearly 30 years. Sales have been sluggish this year, although they accelerated last month to their fastest pace since February as mortgage rates eased. The average rate on a 30-year mortgage fell this week to its lowest level in more than a year. □

Associated Press

Instacart, DoorDash, Gopuff among companies offering discounts to SNAP recipients

By DEE-ANN DURBIN
AP Business Writer

Instacart said Friday it will offer customers who receive SNAP benefits 50% on their next grocery order to ease strain as the government prepares to cut off food aid payments.

Instacart said any customer who placed an order in October using a SNAP/EBT card will be eligible for the discount, which will be available even if the government makes the payments as planned on Nov. 1. Instacart said it is also expanding the number of food banks it supports through online food drives from 100 to 300.

The San Francisco-based grocery delivery company said both programs amount to \$5 million in direct relief.

"As SNAP funding faces

unprecedented disruption and food banks brace for longer lines, we're focused on practical, immediate solutions: helping families who use SNAP stretch their grocery dollars and helping food banks stock up to support their communities,"

said Dani Dudeck, Instacart's chief corporate affairs officer. Instacart is one of several big companies reacting to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's plan to freeze payments to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program on Nov.

1 due to the government shutdown. Gopuff, a Philadelphia-based company that provides fast delivery of food and other convenience items, said it will provide \$50 worth of free groceries in November to customers who have a SNAP/EBT card connected to their Gopuff account. Gopuff said it will spend up to \$10 million on the program. San Francisco-based DoorDash said it would waive service and delivery fees for an estimated 300,000 orders for SNAP recipients in November. DoorDash said Friday that 25 grocery companies, including Sprouts, Dollar General, Giant Eagle, Stop & Shop, Winn-Dixie, BJ's Wholesale Club and ShopRite, are partnering with DoorDash to cut those fees. DoorDash said it would also deliver 1 mil-

lion meals from food banks for free. The company said more than 2.4 million of its customers have a SNAP/EBT card linked to their DoorDash account.

Zip Co., a "buy now, pay later" app that lets users set up installment plans to pay for purchases, said Friday it will offer temporary, no-fee installment payment options for SNAP recipients who need help buying groceries if the government doesn't make payments on Nov. 1. Eligible customers need to fill out a form in the Zip app, the company said. Zip, which is based in Australia, said it was partnering with Forage, a company that processes government payments for retailers. Zip said it has 4.25 million active users, but it wouldn't say how many are SNAP recipients. □



An instacart logo and an instacart webpage are shown in this photo, in New York, on Sept. 6, 2023.

Associated Press

Kipchoge and Hassan to make New York Marathon debuts against strong competition



In a Nov. 6, 2005, file photo, runners cross the upper level of the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge from Staten Island to Brooklyn at the start of the New York City Marathon in New York.

Associated Press

By **DOUG FEINBERG**
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Eliud Kipchoge and Sifan Hassan are at different ends of their marathon careers. Kipchoge, who turns 41 next week, is wrapping up a historic run as one of the most accomplished marathoners in the sport, while

the 32-year-old Hassan is in the prime of her career, coming off a victory at Sydney two months ago. The two are taking on the New York Marathon for the first time Sunday, with Hassan looking to pull off the incredible double after winning in Australia. To accomplish that feat,

the Dutch star will have to beat the last three champions Sheila Chepkirui of Kenya (2024), Hellen Obiri (2023) and Sharon Lokedi (2022), who set the Boston Marathon course record in April. "I have respect for the course which I haven't done," Hassan said. "I have

big respect for the athletes going to run with me. I'm not going to say I'm going to win, it's very hard." Hassan has the best time of the group, running a personal best 2 hours, 13.44 minutes at the Chicago Marathon in 2023, but she'll have to deal with the 26.2-mile course that is full of bridges and hills. "I remember last year after Paris it made me so scared of how hard this course (is)," said Hassan, who broke the Olympic record in the marathon last year. "I wasn't ready last year." This is Hassan's first trip to the city and she knows how she'll celebrate after finishing the race by having her "first slice of New York pizza." U.S. record holder Emily Sisson and Tokyo Olympic bronze medalist Molly Seidel are the top Americans in the field. An American woman hasn't won the race since Shalane Flanagan did it in 2017. It's been 16 years since an American man won. Kipchoge sees New York as a victory lap after his illus-

trious career in which he's won 11 major marathons and set two world records. His last major marathon victory came in Berlin in 2023. "I'm really saying thank you because this is the only way that I can do that," he said. He has spent the last few days in New York and has been running around iconic Central Park, where the race finishes. "Going down the streets everyone is happy, it's a beautiful (running) culture," he said. "I realized that over a million people run in Central Park every year." Kipchoge will be part of a strong men's field that includes defending champion Abdi Nageeye of the Netherlands. He's looking to be the first repeat winner since Geoffrey Mutai in 2011 and 2013. The 2012 race was cancelled because of Superstorm Sandy. "It would be a dream come true, but I know how tough this race course is," Nageeye said. "This is my fifth time (running it), every time was different then I expected. It would be amazing if that happens." □

Candace Parker, Elena Delle Donne, Cheryl Reeve headline 2026 Women's Basketball Hall of Fame class

By **DOUG FEINBERG**
AP Basketball Writer

Candace Parker, Elena Delle Donne and Cheryl Reeve headline the 2026 Women's Basketball Hall of Fame class that was announced Thursday. Other players getting inducted on June 27 in Knoxville, Tennessee, include international stars Isabelle Fijalkowski of France and Amaya Valdemoro of Spain. Kirkwood Community College coach Kim Muhl and former Clemson star Barbara Kennedy-Dixon will also be inducted, along with ESPN announcer Doris Burke. "We are honored to pay tribute to eight distinguished legends of this exceptional sport," Hall of Fame President Dana Hart said. "They exemplify the highest standards in wom-

en's basketball and have made substantial contributions to the sport, along with shaping the game's historical trajectory." Parker won three WNBA championships, playing for a different team each time, while also helping the U.S. win two Olympic gold medals. "Coming back to Tennessee for this honor is full circle," Parker told The Associated Press. "This is where Coach (Pat) Summitt taught me what it means to lead, to compete and to elevate others. To stand here in the same community that impacted me so much and be inducted into the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame is a tribute to Pat's legacy and to everyone who cheered me on along the way." Delle Donne was recently

named the national team director of USA Basketball 3-on-3 team. She announced her retirement from the WNBA in April. She won two league MVPs, made seven All-Star appearances in 11 seasons and helped the Washington Mystics win a WNBA championship in 2019. Reeve has won four titles in her 16 years leading the Minnesota Lynx. She's been named WNBA coach of the year four times and the league's executive of the year twice. She also led the U.S. women's team to a gold at the 2024 Paris Olympics. Burke has been a basketball voice for the past three decades, working at ESPN since 1991. She's been a big part of the network's coverage of the NCAA Tournament and

WNBA. She also was a trailblazer, working on ESPN's men's college basketball and NBA coverage starting in 2003. She became part of the network's lead NBA broadcasting team in 2023.

Valdemoro won three titles with the Houston Comets from 1998-2000. She also won eight Spanish League titles. Valdemoro played for Spain at the 2004 and 2008 Olympics. □



Las Vegas Aces center Candace Parker (3) watches her shot during a WNBA basketball game against the Atlanta Dream, Friday, June 2, 2023, in College Park, Ga.

Associated Press

Down but not out, the Ravens eye a second-half resurgence after Lamar Jackson's return

By **NOAH TRISTER**
AP Sports Writer

Lamar Jackson's return was just what the Baltimore Ravens were hoping for, and now they can be taken seriously again as contenders.

The Ravens were awfully close to being written off as recently as last weekend, when Jackson was still out for a game against Chicago and Baltimore was facing the possibility of a 1-6 record. Backup quarterback Tyler Huntley played well enough to win that game, and then Jackson returned from his hamstring injury and threw four touchdown passes in a 28-6 victory at Miami on Thursday night.

"They were absolute must-wins, both of those two games. For our guys to step up the way they did, and to step out the way they did, and play the kind of football they did with their backs to the wall on the canvas and to get back up and do what they did, is commendable," coach John Harbaugh said. "It just means we're two games under .500. That's all it means, but we're two games under .500. We were four games under .500."

The Ravens (3-5) continue to creep up on AFC North-leading Pittsburgh (4-3), which faces NFL-leading Indianapolis (7-1) this week-



Baltimore Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson (8) throws against the Miami Dolphins during the first half of an NFL football game, Thursday, Oct. 30, 2025, in Miami Gardens, Fla.

Associated Press

end. Baltimore's next four opponents, meanwhile, are a combined 9-22.

About a month ago the Ravens took the field without Jackson, linebacker Roquan Smith, safety Kyle Hamilton, cornerback Marlon Humphrey, tackle Ronnie Stanley and fullback Patrick Ricard. All four of their All-Pros from last season were unavailable.

The situation looks a lot less bleak now.

"Usually, we start off winning games," Jackson said. "But right now, we're behind, and we all have to step it up."

What's working

The Ravens have scored 139 points in the four full games when Jackson was healthy. His passer rating is 136.7, and there's no shortage of players to throw to. Baltimore's three tight ends Mark Andrews, Isaiah Likely and Charlie Kolar combined for seven catches for 105 yards and three touchdowns Thursday night.

"Just a matter of getting them the ball, and we were able to get them the ball on play action a number of times behind the linebackers, which was big for us. All three of those guys," Har-

baugh said. "We want to be able to spread it around and go to everybody."

Wideout Zay Flowers is third in the AFC with 550 yards receiving.

What needs help

Baltimore hasn't been great on the line of scrimmage, offensively or defensively. Derrick Henry is on pace for well over 1,000 yards rushing, but there have been times the Ravens have tried and failed to take control of games by running the ball. Short-yardage situations have been surprisingly problematic for them.

Defensive tackle Nnamdi

Madubuike is one injured player Baltimore hasn't gotten back. He's out for the season because of a neck problem, and the Ravens have felt his absence both against the run and in the pass rush.

But Baltimore may have played well enough these past two weeks to give the front office a reason to be aggressive looking for help at the trade deadline.

Stock up

Jordan Stout is averaging 46 net yards per punt, ranking second in the league. He's had some important kicks, like the one that pinned Chicago back inside the 5 when the Ravens were trying to protect a fourth-quarter lead last weekend.

Stock down

Rashod Bateman is one receiver who hasn't gotten the ball as much as Baltimore has spread it around. After 45 catches last season, he has only 15 in 2025, although he did reach the end zone against Miami.

Injuries

Although every cornerstone player besides Madubuike is back now, Stanley's ankle remains a concern given the injury problems he's had through his career. He's only missed one full game, but it's been touch and go even when he's been available, and his effectiveness is crucial. □

Bengals quarterback Joe Flacco's status is up in the air for Sunday's game

By **CHARLIE GOLDSMITH**
Associated Press

CINCINNATI (AP) — Bengals quarterback Joe Flacco is listed as questionable for Sunday's game against the Chicago Bears because of a shoulder injury.

The 18-year veteran said after Friday's practice that he's feeling good and that his mindset is that he's going to be playing.

"You try to play," Flacco said. "You're the quarterback. You take it from there. My instinct is whatever we can do to get there and adjust."

Flacco hurt his shoulder taking a sack in the fourth quarter last Sunday in a 39-38 loss to the New York Jets.

Flacco didn't practice on Wednesday or Friday as a way to give the shoulder some

time to rest. He practiced on Thursday in a limited capacity.

"When you're the guy (at quarterback), there's always a sense of obligation to be there for your team," Flacco said. "I missed my second son's birth because I thought it was important for the quarterback to be out there. I didn't know I was going to miss it. It happened he came on that day. I do feel a sense of obligation being out there for the guys you play with. It's natural when you play this game to want to be out there with anyone."

If Flacco can't start, then Jake Browning would step in. Sean Clifford was signed off the practice squad and would serve as Browning's backup or be the emergency third quarterback and inactive if Flacco can play. □



Cincinnati Bengals quarterback Joe Flacco (16) calls a play during the first half of an NFL football game against the New York Jets, Sunday, Oct. 26, 2025, in Cincinnati.

Associated Press